

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a rotor core to be fixed around a rotary shaft, comprising the steps of;

constraining ~~an~~ a circularly-shaped intermediate blank having ~~an~~ a central axis and multiple magnetic pole claws, ~~that protrude~~ each magnetic pole claw protruding coaxially with the blank central axis ~~from so as to have a radial dimension defined by a circumference of the intermediate blank and an inner peripheral surface of the~~ each magnetic pole claw; and

applying a forming force ~~from~~ in a radial direction of said ~~rotor core~~ intermediate blank toward the blank central axis by moving a forming punch in the radial direction toward the intermediate blank and causing a local plastic flow ~~to~~ at an outer peripheral end of each ~~of the magnetic pole claws~~ claw so as to form a tapered surface on only one side of said outer peripheral end and a permanent-magnet fastener on an inner peripheral end of each ~~of the magnetic pole claws~~ claw.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the tapered surface and the permanent-magnet fastener are formed during application of the forming force.

3. (Previously Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the tapered surface and the permanent-magnet fastener are formed simultaneously.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein a die having multiple component parts constrains the intermediate blank and the inner peripheral surface of each magnetic pole claw.

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the tapered surface and the permanent-magnet fastener are simultaneously formed on sides of each of the magnetic pole ~~claws~~ claw.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of according to Claim 5, wherein the magnetic pole claws are formed ~~all-together~~ at the same time while the inner peripheral surfaces thereof are simultaneously constrained by a die.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 6, wherein each magnetic pole claw is formed while the inner peripheral surface thereof is constrained individually by a die.

8. (Previously Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein any unnecessary portion of the permanent-magnet fastener is trimmed off.

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the tapered surface and the permanent-magnet fastener are volumetrically adjusted so as to be formed into a predetermined shape.

10. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein a constraint force ~~effects joining of the intermediate blank and magnetic pole claw~~

~~together, the constant force being~~ is applied from a direction of the plate portion of the intermediate blank when the forming force is being applied in the radial direction.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a generator, comprising the steps of[[:]]:

forging a rotor core to be fixed around a facing rotary shaft;

constraining ~~an~~ a circularly-shaped intermediate blank having ~~an~~ a central axis and multiple magnetic pole claws, ~~that protrude each magnetic claw protruding coaxially with the blank central axis from so as to have a radial thickness defined by a circumference of the intermediate blank and an inner peripheral surface of the each magnetic pole claw; and~~

applying a forming force ~~from in~~ in a radial direction of said ~~rotor core intermediate blank~~ by moving a forming punch in the radial direction toward the intermediate blank ~~2 central axis~~ and causing a local plastic flow ~~to at~~ at an outer peripheral end of each ~~of the magnetic pole claws~~ claw so as to form a tapered surface on the outer peripheral end and a permanent-magnet fastener on an inner peripheral end ~~which is placed radially on the other side of the outer peripheral end of each magnetic pole claw.~~

12. (Previously Amended) The method according to Claim 11, wherein the tapered surface and the fastener are formed simultaneously on the inner and outer peripheral ends respectively.

13. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 11, wherein the magnetic pole claws are formed ~~all together~~ at the same time while at the same time the inner peripheral surfaces of all magnetic pole claws are constrained.

14. (Previously Amended) The method according to Claim 11, wherein each of said magnetic pole claws is formed while the inner peripheral surface thereof is constrained individually by the die.